

note from neighboring populations for this purpose, even if it should have a harsher climate than that of Easter Island.

Chili's enterprise has taken a new turn in her reported seizure of Easter Island, once known as Davis's Land, and famous for its collection of colossal statues, rudely hewn from stone and placed on enormous platforms of masonry. A specimen of this handiwork of an ancient race, differing, it would seem, from the present inhabitants, was recently, we believe, brought by a Government vessel to Washington for the National Museum. Chili's claims upon the island remain to be developed. To be sure she can claim to be the nearest point of mainland, but a distance of two thousand miles and more is too much for establishing rights based on proximity. The purpose of the Chilians is said to be that of founding a penal colony on her new acquisition. This can hardly be of great advantage to the inhabitants, although the lonely site of the island, thrust out like an advance guard at the extreme southeastern part of Polynesia, might seem admirably to fit it for that purpose. But Chili could apparently find on her own coast among the numerous islands stretching down to Cape Horn one that would be sufficiently re-